or tin (II).

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1	1. A method for stimulating the growth of fingernails, toe nails, and		
2	hooves in a mammal, comprising administering to the nail and nail bed a composition that		
3	comprises a ionic metal-peptide complex in an amount effective to increase nail growth and		
4	produce stronger and smoother nail.		
1	2. The method of claim 1, wherein the ionic metal is selected from the		
2	group consisting of copper (II) or tin (II) and therapeutically acceptable salts and complexes		
3	thereof.		
1	3. The method of claim 1, wherein the ionic metal is copper (II).		
1	4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic		
2	metal-peptide complex is an enzymatic hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat product		
3	silk protein, or soybean protein.		
1	5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic		
2	metal-peptide complex is an acid hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products, silk		
3	protein, or soybean protein.		
1	6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic		
2	metal-peptide complex is a basic hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products, silk		
3	protein, or soybean protein.		
1	7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic		
2	metal-peptide complex is a bacterial hydrolysis of casein, collagen, elastin, meat products,		
3	silk protein, or soybean protein.		
1	8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic		
2	metal-peptide complex is a chemically synthesized copper binding peptide.		
1	9. The method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide of the ionic		
2	metal-peptide complex is a chemically synthesized peptide and the ionic metal is copper (II),		

l	10. The method according to claim 1, wherein the ionic meta	I-peptide	
2	complex is combined with a carrier to form a cream or lotion.		
1	The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentrat	ion of the	
2	ionic metal-peptide complex in the composition is 1% to 25%.		
1	12. A method for improving nail and hoof health, smoothnes	s, and	
2	strength in a mammal, comprising administering to the nail or hoof of said mammal a		
3	pharmaceutical composition that comprises a ionic metal-peptide complex in an amount		
4	effective to stimulate growth and repair and smooth the organ.		